

PRESS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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80 Arbor Day Grants Awarded

(Boise...March 25). The Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), Avista Utilities, Idaho Power and Utah Power are happy to announce the recipients of the 2005 Arbor Day Grant Program. Designed to promote the observance of Arbor Day in Idaho and educate Idaho citizens about the benefits of tree planting, these \$150 cash grants help communities purchase trees, refreshments, handouts and other items to enhance their Arbor Day celebrations.

IDL is joined for the third year by Idaho's three largest investor-owned utilities in sponsoring this grant program. This year, with an additional contribution from the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association (INLA), 80 Idaho Cities will receive funding to celebrate Arbor Day—more than ever before!

According to IDL Director Winston Wiggins "the involvement of Avista, Idaho Power, Utah Power and the INLA in this program is very much appreciated, as community trees play a key role in energy conservation. Properly located around homes and businesses, trees can reduce heating and cooling costs by up to 25%, saving money and conserving energy while improving air quality. These grants help promote this message and encourage wise stewardship of this important natural resource."

The 2005 Arbor Day grants will help the following communities celebrate Arbor Day: Aberdeen, Adams County, Arco, Arimo, Ashton, Bellevue, Blackfoot, Bovill, Buhl, Caldwell, Chubbuck, Coeur d'Alene, Cottonwood, Craigmont, Deary, Driggs, Dubois, Eagle, Elk River, Emmett, Filer, Georgetown, Grangeville, Greer, Harrison, Hayden, Heyburn, Inkom, Iona, Irwin, Kamiah, Kellogg, Kendrick, Ketchum, Kimberly, Kooskia, Lava Hot Springs, Mackay, Malad, McCall, Menan, Meridian, Montpelier, Moscow, Mountain Home, Nampa, Nez Perce County, Nezperce, Oakley, Orofino, Payette, Plummer, Pocatello, Post Falls, Potlatch, Priest River, Riggins, Ririe, Rockland, Rupert, Sandpoint, Shelley, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, Smelterville, Soda Springs, Spirit Lake, St. Anthony, Stanley, Star, Sugar City,

Swan Valley, Tensed, Twin Falls, Victor, Wallace, Wardner, Weippe, Weiser, Wendell, and Worley. For the list of winners or information about the grants or Arbor Day contact the IDL Community Forestry Office at 1-800-432-4648 or check the website www2.state.id.us/lands (click on Community Forestry).

Arbor Day is officially celebrated in the U.S. and Idaho on the last Friday in April (April 29th this year). However your community may be celebrating on a different day due to the climate and planting conditions in your area. ***This year, help your city celebrate trees by celebrating Arbor Day in Idaho!***